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In The United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant S. Charbit et al.  
Serial No. 09/768816  
Filed 1/23/01  
For The Treatment of Pathological Conditions Characterized By An Increased IL-1  
Level

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Preliminary Amendment

This amendment is being filed before any official action has been issued with  
respect thereto.

Kindly enter the following amendment:

p. 1, l. 12 )  
p. 4, l. 9 ) after "metastases," in each case, insert --pulmonary fibrosis--  
p. 8, l. 16 )  
Claim 3, l. 4 )

new after 7  
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Kindly add the following as a separate page following the claims:

--Abstract--

The treatment of pathological conditions characterized by an increased IL-1  
and/or TNF- $\alpha$  level, such as rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, Wegener's disease,  
granulomatosis, asthma, pulmonary emphysema, Paget's disease, osteoporosis, bone metastases,  
pulmonary fibrosis, and atherosclerosis, by administering an effective amount of the compound  
diacerein or rhein, as well as the use of diacerein or rhein in the treatment of certain conditions or  
disorders associated with the process of formation and development of the various types of blood  
cells and other formed elements by the hemopoietic tissues such as myeloma and myeloid  
leukemia.